Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Do they know on what principle it is passed there?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—We do not know.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—It is said here that the age of marriage has actually been lowered. May I know whether they know in which community it is lowered; or whether it is on an increase?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I am not in a position to say.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Do the Government know that in the Brahmin community the age of marriage has been increased?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I want notice.

The Elementary or Vernacular Education Committee—work of.

472. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to place a statement on the table showing.—

(a) the work hitherto done by the Elementary or Vernacular Education Committee;

(b) the date of the Committee's appointment;

(c) the number of meetings held by the Committee?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) The Committee began its regular work only by the 24th Makaram 1108.

The following Gentlemen were examined at Ernakulam.—

1. M. R. Ry. P. Sankaran Nambiyar, Avl., M. A., (Hons.), Professor, Maharaja's College, Ernakulam.

2. M. R. Ry. K. Raman Menon, Avl., M. A., L. T., Headmaster, High School, Ernakulam.

3. M. R. Ry. Kesavan Nayar, Avl., Pandit, Maharaja's College, Ernakulam.

4. M. R. Ry. K. Ayyappan, Avl., B. A., Ernakulam.

5. M. R. Ry. George Chakyamuri, Avl., B. A., B. L., Kumbalangi.

To ascertain public opinion, a public conference was also held at Ernakulam.

For verification of evidences collected 23 schools in the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk were inspected and notes taken.

The following Gentlemen were examined at Trichur.—

1. M. R. Ry. A. Krishna Warriar, Avl., B. A., L. T., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Vadakkancheri.

2. Mrs. Philip, Headmistress, Girls' High School, Kunnamkulam.

3. M. R. Ry., C. P. Govindan Nayar, Avl., 1st Assistant C. N. N. H. S., Cherpu.

4. M. R. Ry., C. Kunhirama Menon Avl., Trichur.

5. M. R. Ry. T. P. Verghese Avl., M. A., B. Paed. and L. T., Principal, Govt. Training Institution, Trichur.

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6. Jos Verghese Avl., Panchayat President, Kurkancheri.

7. M. R. Ry. V. K. Achyuta Menon Avl., Superintendent G. T. School, Trichur.

8. M. R. Ry. M. R. Ramaswamy Ayyar, Avl., B. A., Trichur.

9. M. R. Ry. K. Madhava Menon, Avl., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Trichur.

A public conference was also held at Trichur.

(b) The Committee was appointed as per Diwan's Proceedings dated 19th October 1931, C. 3297/1106.

(c) Three committee meetings and two public conferences.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know what the delay of one year is due to?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—On a previous occasion that question has been answered. It was not possible to get all the members to agree on the actual method of work. There was also the question of money. When money was found they increased the sphere of action and more money was wanted. I had to again apply for funds. Although they had only three meetings, one meeting took 4 or 5 days.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Are they now agreed on their plan of operations?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes. They finally agreed and some more money was found to be necessary.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know when the report is expected?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I cannot give the exact days. I have informed them that we should have it before the end of this year.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Do the Government know what was the attendance at the public conference at Trichur?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I do not know.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Was it not a dozen or so?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I do not know. I cannot say whether it was a dozen or less.

Want of roads in Kadavanthara.

473. Dr. K. Sankara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

1. whether they are aware of the fact that there are neither roads, lanes nor even proper foot-paths in Kadavanthara that lies east to the town limits of Ernakulam;

2. whether the people of Kadavanthara have been approaching the Government about the matter through petitions ever since the year 1067 M. E.

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